

DUNIPACE PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
A YEAR OF MISSION WITH VISION
SPRING 2016 NEWSLETTER

Charity No: SC 002943
www.dunipacechurch.org.uk

Message from your Minister

God the Provider

Elisha replied to her, 'How can I help you? Tell me, what do you have in your house?'

'Your servant has nothing there at all', she said, 'except a little oil.' 2 Kings 4

Dear Friends,

I have fond memories of the time when I was a little girl growing up in a community where people looked after their neighbours and did what they could to help those who were in need. This worked because people trusted each other. Senior members of the community were not afraid of the youth. The young were not frightened by the frail in society. Neighbours looked out for each other, they were not competitive and did not envy that which others had because in the main they all had pretty much the same.

My mum would often say to David, Linda or myself, "Away over the road with this jug of soup and give it to Mrs so and so or Mr so and so." In other words to whichever neighbour was in need of a jug of soup or a loaf of bread or some milk or eggs.

My mum was doing what she had learned from her own mum, namely, to cheerfully, willingly and freely, provide for those

who were in need of help. My Granny Wardlaw was like an unpaid and probably unregistered "District Nurse" or "Home Help", yet she possessed all the knowledge and all the skill required to be of assistance to people in their time of need, such as providing an old remedy for an everyday ailment. "Little things" my Granny Wardlaw informed me, "often make the biggest difference in peoples lives." She was referring to a kindly word, a cheery smile, a friendly wave, a wee bunch of flowers or sweet treat, little things that let them know they were not forgotten but were kept in thought and prayer.

I like to think this willingness to be there for others and help them has not skipped a generation. I like to think I carry these genes of compassion and provision in my genetic make up too!

No doubt there will be times, many times, when I, when you, when we, fall short or fail to be there for others. We are, however, greatly comforted in knowing that God the great Provider will not fail us and will always meet our deepest needs.

Evidence of God's provision runs throughout the Bible, like a golden thread binding the pages of the Old and New Covenants together. One of my favourite stories is found in 2 Kings chapter 4, where a worried-looking woman came to see the prophet Elisha.

"Sir," she began, 'I am in real trouble...'

"I wonder how I can help you?' He murmured. Then God put a suggestion into Elisha's mind. "Have you anything at all left in the house?" he asked. "Just a little jar of olive oil - that's all," she answered. "That will do," Elisha said.

Elisha instructed the woman to borrow as many empty jars as she could find. As she started to fill the jars, it seemed as if the supply of oil would never run out. "Go and sell the oil," commanded Elisha.

This story speaks not just about God being the great Provider, it speaks almost as loudly about the role we play too, namely that of TRUSTING in God. The woman's problem was solved. Her need was met. Her prayer was answered and, most importantly of all, her trust in God was honoured because she was prepared to do what God asked of her.

We ask and expect God to meet our needs, answer our prayers, fill our empty church pews, put coffers in our church purses, provide a new minister, solve our problems, lift our anxiety... and so God does according to His Will. But often our asking is half-hearted and our trust lukewarm.

When it comes to meeting our needs, we expect God to do what we ask of Him. The more important question, however, is this: In allowing God to meet our individual and corporate needs are we prepared to do what God is asking of us?

What is God asking of us?

God might well be asking us to let go of old wounds and niggling grudges. In order to provide what we need, God might well be asking us to surrender our control over a situation and hand it over to God in prayer. It might be that we need to speak openly and honestly to those who can assist us, knowing with confidence that they will not judge us but rather do everything they can to help. It might be that before God can provide for us, we need to demonstrate our complete trust in God and in those whom God sends to help us.

Perhaps this "little adaptation" of Joseph Scriven's famous hymn, helps drive the need for trust home.

"What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and grief to bear!
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer
O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear
All because we "lack the trust required"
To carry everything to God in prayer!"

PRAYER

Gracious God

As we remember your unfailing love for us

Help us to show our love for you by living as you mean us to live.

As we acknowledge your trust in us

Help us to build trust, in you and in others, into the framework of our daily living, that we might face the demands and delights of each day with courage and with hope, knowing that we face them not alone but with you by our side.

We confess today that we do not return your love, nor we do uphold trust in you.

We doubt and we dither

We fear and we fuel the anxiety of others

We worry ourselves sick and often let your guidance pass us by

Give us, O God, such trust in your power, and in your will to help us, that we take risks in your service, and most importantly of all, the leap of faith that allows us to surrender our will to your will, our way to your way, and our work and witness to your vision for this place and these your people you have called us to love, serve and trust in your precious name.

These things we pray, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord
Amen

With warmest regards and God's richest blessings

Jean W Gallacher

**Rev Dr Jean W Gallacher
Parish Minister**

**Dunipace Parish Church of Scotland
Registered Charity No: SC002943**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MARCH

4 th	7.00pm	WORLD DAY OF PRAYER - Denny Old
6 th	11.00am	COMMUNION SERVICE
	3.00pm	COMMUNION in Tygetshaugh Court
8 th	10-12noon	KIRK CAFÉ in Church Halls
13 th	11.00am	Morning Worship
14 th	7.30pm	STATED ANNUAL MEETING in halls Speaker: From Mary's Mealls
15 th	9.30am	ATTESTATION of Rolls & Records

HOLY WEEK & EASTER SERVICES

20 th	11.00am	PALM SUNDAY PRAISE: Dunipace
21 st	7.30pm	Service in Denny Westpark Church
22 nd	7.30pm	Service in Bonnybridge St Helen's Church
23 rd	7.30pm	Service in Dunipace Parish Church
24 th	7.30pm	Communion in Denny Baptist Church
25 th	10.30am	Walk of Witness: St. Alexander's Church
	7.30pm	Good Friday Service in Hagsgs Church
27 th	8.30am	Early Service at Denny Old Church
	9.00am	Easter Breakfast in Denny Old Church
	11.00am	EASTER FAMILY PRAISE: Dunipace
28 th	2.00pm	Friendship Group in church halls

APRIL

3 rd	11.00am	Morning Worship
10 th	11.00am	Morning Worship
11 th	7.30pm	CONGREGATIONAL BOARD MEETING
17 th	11.00am	Morning Worship
24 th	11.00am	Morning Worship
30 th	2pm-4pm	DAFFODIL TEA in church halls

MAY

1 st	11.00am	Morning Worship
8 th	11.00am	Morning Worship
15 th	11.00am	Morning Worship
16 th	7.30pm	KIRK SESSION
21 st - 27 th	May	GENERAL ASSEMBLY WEEK
22 nd	11.00am	Morning Worship - Pulpit Supply
27 th	2.00pm	WEDDING in Dunipace Church
28 th	1pm-3pm	GALA TEAS in the church halls

TIMELY REMINDERS

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Friday 4th March at 7pm

This year the service is being held in Denny Old parish Church. All are welcome

ATTESTATION OF ROLLS & RECORDS **Monday 14th March**

Office Bearers who maintain the various rolls and records should note that all of our Rolls and Records should be handed in to Mr Alex Cook, Session Clerk, no later than Monday 14th March.

STATED ANNUAL MEETING **Monday 14th March at 7.30pm**

This is as much a social event as it is a business matter. This year we have a speaker from **Mary's Mealls**. Mr John Helliwell will give a presentation at the beginning of the meeting. After the tea, we will conclude the night with the business matters. An open invitation is extended not only to our members and friends, but indeed to members of other congregations who would like to hear more about the work of Mary's Mealls.

CONGREGATIONAL BOARD MEMBERSHIP – VACANCIES

There are vacancies on the Congregational Board. If you would like to serve the local church as a Trustee on the Board or find out more about the work of the Congregational Board, please, have a word with the Minister. Thank you.

CONGREGATIONAL BOARD MEETING **Monday 11th April**

The full Board meets next on Monday 11th April 2016 at 7.30pm

KIRK SESSION

Monday 16th May

The Kirk Session meets next on Monday 16th May 2016 at 7.30pm

WALK 125 Club

Several members of the congregation plan to walk 125 miles in 2016 and each raise £125 for Dunipace Parish Church. The 125 miles will not be completed all at the one time but will be spread over the year. If you would like to take part in this challenge, join "Our Club" or find out more about our goal, have a word with Barbara Fulford. Friends and neighbours are encouraged to come along too. The more the merrier.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Will be celebrated on

Sunday 6th March 2016

In Dunipace Church at 11am

And in Tygetshaugh Court at 3pm

A place at the Table has been reserved for YOU

COMMUNION ROTA

For Sunday 6th March at 11am

Communion Table

Alex Cook

Jim Winning

Barnego Road Side

Organ Side

Wine Front: Bill Ferguson

Wine Front: Bill Paterson

Wine Back: June Davies

Wine Back: Jean Gray

Bread Front: Jim Perry

Bread Front: Helen Lax

Bread Back: Jane Mills

Bread Back: Aileen Sneddon

Reserves: Sandra Cook, Ian Stokes

If unable to do your duty, please contact one of the reserves to arrange a replacement or contact: Alex Cook, Session Clerk

THE KIRK CAFÉ

Will be open on

TUESDAY 8th March

In Dunipace Church Halls

From 10am – 12noon

A warm welcome is there for YOU

If you can help with home baking, serving in the kitchen or with transport, please, have a word with Mrs June Davie.

With your help we can make this a successful venture

HOLY WEEK & EASTER

PALM SUNDAY PRAISE

Sunday 20th March at 11am in Dunipace Church

UNITED HOLY WEEK SERVICES

The evening services all begin at 7.30pm

Monday	21 st	Denny Westpark Church Rev David Wandrum
Tuesday	22 nd	Bonnybridge St Helen's Church Rev George MacDonald
Wednesday	23 rd	Dunipace Parish Church Rev Dr Jean W Gallacher
Thursday	24 th	Denny Baptist Church Maundy Thursday Communion Rev Norman Graham
Friday	25 th	Haggs Parish Church Good Friday Service Rev Sandra Mathers

WALK OF WITNESS

Friday 25th March 10.30am St Alexander's Church

**He's Alive! He's Alive!
He is Risen**

EASTER SERVICES

Sunday 27th March

Early Service	8.30am	Denny Old Parish Church
Easter Breakfast	9.00am	Denny Old Parish Church
Easter Praise	11.00am	Dunipace Parish Church

Come and join with us over Holy Week & Easter.
Bring your family and friends too.
A warm welcome awaits you.

EASTER CRACKED OPEN

Written by: Rev Dr Jean W Gallacher © JWG 2016

Crack the egg, open it wide
Let the gooey yolk, trickle messily
through your fingers.
Do not lick them.
The raw taste will appal.

Add a few specks of salt, from the Dead Sea
A dash of milk, from the cattle in the byre
at Bethlehem.
And do not forget the flour that has been ground
in the home of Mary & Martha.
Beaten together, with love, it should be sweet enough

Pancakes tossed high bring children delight.
For adults the meaning is surreal.
A time of feasting, leads to famine
Lent is almost here.
The time for reflection, temptation, is near.
Forty days to resist, what we fear we cannot miss

Like the disciples of old,
sit, pray, in the Garden of Gethsemane.
Open your heart to God.
For in the Easter story, amid the scandal, the horror,
there is glory.

The cross is now bare.
The stone rolled away.
There is no place to hide.

As a new day dawns, the yoke of service falls upon us
The glorious sunrise, nestling comfortably
in the duck egg blue sky, of the Easter morn,
Highlights the words on the empty cross
King of the Jews
There we see reflected, the grace of God
Easter cracked open
We know our Saviour is risen

Scattered fragments of faith are gathered,
in an Easter basket of hope.
The Son of God reigns eternally

THE DAFFODILS

*“I wander’d lonely as a cloud,
That floats on high o’er vales and hills
When all at once I saw a crowd
A host of golden daffodils...”*

William Wordsworth 1770-1850

DAFFODIL TEA

In

Dunipace Church Halls

On

SATURDAY 30th APRIL

2pm-4pm

With this edition of the Church Magazine, you should receive an **INVITATION** to the **DAFFODIL TEA** being held in the church halls, on Saturday 30th April.

What a wonderful way to generate fellowship and what wonderful way to step into **SPRING**

With signs of new life all around us such as the tiny yellow chicks, the golden daffodils, and an empty cross, we don't want to feel left out at Easter time.

This social event is **FREE** and is open to all members of the congregation.

To help us with catering arrangements, we ask those planning to attend, to complete and return the Invitation slip.

DONATIONS for this social outreach event

We are looking for donations of sandwiches, tray bakes and sweets such as trifle, apple pie or other tasty treats that spring to mind! Not forgetting help in the kitchen, serving and transport etc. More details will follow soon.

THE MERRY MONTH OF MAY

Looking ahead to the “Merry month of May” there are a few upcoming events and activities we would like to promote early, so you can put the dates in your diary and invite your family and friends to join in.

CLOTHING COLLECTION

Mid May

As we think about shedding the winter woollies and venturing into the pastel colours of spring and summer, why not fill as many black bin-bags as you can with clean, unwanted clothes, and help the local church raise a few pounds in the process?

The actual collection date in MAY has still to be confirmed but it is likely to be mid May. Further information will be provided soon. In the meantime, start filling those bags with clean, unwanted clothes.

GALA CREAM TEAS

Saturday 28th May

The Gala is being held in Herbertshire (Gala Park) on Saturday 28th May. There will be lots of stalls and many other things happening, such as the Crowning of the Gala Queen and the unfurling of the new Denny & Dunipace Community Flag.

Dunipace Church is delighted to open the halls and be part of the day by serving CREAM TEAS (Cost £2.50 per person)

If you can help on this day, in the kitchen, serving at the tables, or in providing homemade scones, milk, jams, cream etc, please have a word with Mrs June Davies.

Remember the words from our own local church song:

**“We’re Dunipace Parish, and we’re proud to be,
Part of a community, where vision runs free...”**

From the new hymn “Disciples of Jesus”
Written by Rev Dr Jean W Gallacher © JWG 2013

PARISH REGISTER

FUNERALS "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life"

Mrs Alexanderina Manson	Low Quarter Mill Cottage
Mrs Rae Robertson	Hayfield Terrace, D/L/Head
Mrs Elizabeth Lyons	Thorndale Gardens, Allandale
Mrs Elizabeth Duncan	Mayfield Drive, Longcroft
Mrs Elizabeth Gardiner	Anderson Drive, Denny
Mrs Joyce Dyer	Thistle Avenue, Dunipace
Mr James Buchanan	Beech Crescent, Dunipace
Mr James Armstrong	Major's Loan, Falkirk
Mr James Paterson	Ardler, Blairgowrie

We keep the families very much in our thoughts and prayers.

BAPTISMS "Let the children come to me"

ANDREW COLLIER

Second son of Craig & Michelle, was baptised on Sunday 7th February, 2016

HELP US TO BE THERE FOR YOU

Please remember that Hospital and Nursing Home records are confidential. If you, or a relative, require the pastoral services of the Minister, please, let the Minister know.

If you move address or have a change in name etc, please, keep us informed. Thank you.

PAUSE & PONDER

"Some wandered in desert wastelands, finding no way to a city where they could settle. They were hungry and thirsty. They cried out to the Lord in their trouble and he delivered them from their distress. " Psalm 107:4-6

DUNIPACE PARISH CHURCH WHO'S WHO

Minister	Rev Dr Jean W Gallacher
Session Clerk	Mr Alex Cook
Associate Clerk	Mr Gregor Wilson
Clerk to Board	Mrs Tish Graham
Treasurer	Mrs Fiona Bruce
Freewill Offering	Mrs Jean Gray
Gift Aid	Mrs Sandra Cook
Mission Bags	Mrs Aileen Sneddon
Roll Keeper	Mrs Ian Stokes
Presbytery Elder	Mr Jim Winning
Additional Elder	Mrs Helen Lax
Organist & Choir	Mr David Faulds
Children's Ministry	Mrs Barbara Fulford
Safeguarding	Mrs Helen Lax
Afternoon Friendship	Mrs Betty McDonald
Prayer & Bible Study	Rev Dr Jean W Gallacher
Men's Club	Mr Angus Cameron
Reminiscence Group	Mr Jim Perry
Badminton Group	Mr George Mills
Flowers	Mrs Jane Mills
Communion Linen	Mrs Chrissie Busby
Kirk Café	Mrs June Davies
Property	Mr Jim Perry
Finance	Mrs Anne Marchant
Hospitality	Mrs Maureen Pleace
Communications	Mrs Helen Lax
Magazine Distribution	Mr Bill Paterson
Posters	Mr David Reynolds
Website Editor	Mr James Smith
Health & Safety	Mr Bill Ferguson
Life & Work	Mrs Maureen Pleace

VESTRY TIME

For an appointment please call the Minister
Rev Dr Jean W Gallacher – 824540

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Scottish Charity Number: SC002943